

October 29, 2023

Reformation Sunday



REFORMATION
SUNDAY

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.org

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Usher: Joseph Weller

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As We Gather

Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus' Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus' Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

774 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."
- C** **One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.**
- P** Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?
- C** **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.**
- P** The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God.
- C** **They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.**

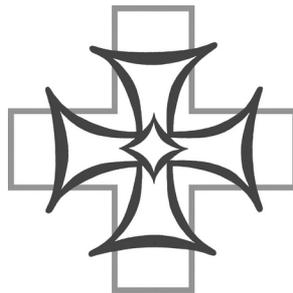
- P** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C** **Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended You and sinned against Your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to Your promises in Christ Jesus.**
- P** Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity.
- C** **I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up. O LORD my God, I cried out to You, And You healed me.**
- P** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by His death on the cross and freed us from death by His resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 46:1-2, 7

- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
- C** **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**
- P** Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed,
- C** **And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;**
- P** God is our refuge and strength,
- C** **A very present help in trouble.**



Glory be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - ginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be for - ev - er more. A - men.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

1 Glory be to God in heav - en, Peace to those He
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our
loves so well. On the earth let all His peo - ple
sin a - way, Now with Him in tri - umph seat - ed
Speak His grace, His won - ders tell:
For Your mer - cy, Lord, we pray:

Lord, we praise You for Your glo - ry,
 Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly,
 Might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; Hear our joy - ful
 Sav - ior You are God a - lone In the glo - ry
 ad - o - ra - tion And ac - cept the thanks we bring.
 of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray...
 ... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 13:17-23

- ¹⁷ “Likewise, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own heart; prophesy against them, ¹⁸ and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Woe to the women who sew magic charms on their sleeves and make veils for the heads of people of every height to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of My people, and keep yourselves alive? ¹⁹ And will you profane Me among My people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die, and keeping people alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies?”’ ²⁰ ‘Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I am against your magic charms by which you hunt souls there like birds. I will tear them from your arms, and let the souls go, the souls you hunt like birds. ²¹ I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people out of your hand, and they shall no longer be as prey in your hand. Then you shall know that I am the LORD. ²² “Because with lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I

have not made sad; and you have strengthened the hands of the wicked, so that he does not turn from his wicked way to save his life. ²³ Therefore you shall no longer envision futility nor practice divination; for I will deliver My people out of your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD.” ’ ’ ”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 46

- P** God is our refuge and strength,
- C** **A very present help in trouble.**
- P** Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed,
- C** **And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;**
- P** Though its waters roar and be troubled,
- C** **Though the mountains shake with its swelling.**
- P** There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,
- C** **The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.**
- P** God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;
- C** **God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.**
- P** The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved;
- C** **He uttered His voice, the earth melted.**
- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
- C** **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**
- P** Come, behold the works of the LORD,
- C** **Who has made desolations in the earth.**
- P** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
- C** **He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.**
- P** Be still, and know that I am God;
- C** **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!**
- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
- C** **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Epistle Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—⁷ saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

284 – Father of Mercies, in Thy Word

Sermon Text

John 8:31-36

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.



Sermon

Stick to the Word

- I. Only the Word Gives True Discipleship
- II. Only the Word Offers Genuine Truth
- III. Only the Word Reveals True Freedom

Offertory



Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your
pres-ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Your free spir-it. A - men.

Hymn

360 - Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Offering

Offering Hymn

443 (1, 8)



1 O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea, To
2 To Thee, from whom we all de - rive Our
Thee all praise and glo - ry be. How
life, our gifts, our pow'r to give. Oh,
shall we show our love to Thee, Who giv - est all?
may we ev - er with Thee live, Who giv - est all!

General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Hymn

261 – Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word

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✝ Announcements ✝

Upcoming Schedule

October 29	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
November 5	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
November 12	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

Upcoming Meetings: The following is our schedule of meetings through the annual meeting in January:

- **November 5** – Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- **November 19** – Board of Education
- **December 3** – Board of Elders/Church Council
- **December 17** – Board of Trustees/Church Council
- **January 7** – Annual Voters' Meeting

Nominations for Immanuel Professor Call: The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate an individual or individuals to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Professor Mark Kranz at the end of the 2023-24 academic year. The position would be best served by someone who is teacher trained and has the ability to teach high school (if nominee is male or female) and college classes (if nominee is male) primarily in social studies (history/geography), elementary education methods, and other potential disciplines commencing with the 2024-25 academic year. Those submitting nominations would need to include information regarding the nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in technology expertise, extracurricular activities, or administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

Nominations for ILC President: The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2024. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of

the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2024. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Applications are being accepted for the 2024 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Find more information and apply online: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org

CLC Call News: Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen's Lutheran of Mt. View, CA is still considering the call to Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran of Vernon, British Columbia, is still considering the call to Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI, and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI.

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

October 30 – November 4

Monday: Psalm 46 – No matter what can happen in our life, even if the earth dissolves (v2), God is the fortress that keeps us safe. Nations may be in turmoil, but He who stands with us is mightier than all. Be still, my soul! Luther was content to stand with such a God rather than the greatest earthly ruler.

Tuesday: John 2:13-17 – The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ was not given to us in order to make a quick buck, nor is God worshiped by merchandising His mercy. The wealth of this world is paltry to Him. May it never becloud our adoration of Him.

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 3:11-23 – Through the 16th century reformation God proclaimed again that Christ is the sure and only foundation for peace with Him, forgiveness of sins, true wisdom, and eternal life.

Thursday: Mark 10:13-16 – The way to the kingdom of God is childlike faith, not the wisdom that comes with age, or the responsibility of an adult. Looking to Jesus brings blessing unimaginable.

Friday: Ephesians 6:1-9 – The apostle speaks to children and slaves as members of the household, and urges them to serve and honor those placed above them, for in this way they are serving the Lord (v7).

Saturday: 2 Samuel 7:17-19 – The Lord has made known to David that his offspring will build the temple, and that his Offspring (Jesus, Lk1:33) will reign forever. David's thankful response: Who am I, that I should be so blessed?